IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A signal processing apparatus comprising:

a generator configured to generate a luminance signal of an input video signal;

an extractor configured to extract a high frequency signal from said input video signal, and including a first bandpass filter connected to a coring circuit configured to output said high frequency signal;

a mask generator configured to generate a mask by masking image quality degrading components contained in said high frequency signal, and including an absolute value calculator connected to a second bandpass filter connected to a threshold processor connected to a point eliminator connected to a mask processor configured to output said mask, the second bandpass filter configured to output a bandpassed signal;

a gain factor generator configured to generate a gain factor based on two separate inputs, said two separate inputs being said mask and said low passed signal;

a contour correction signal generator configured to generate a contour correction signal by multiplying said high frequency signal by said gain factor; and

a luminance corrector configured to correct said luminance signal based on said contour correction signal.

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): The signal processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein:

said mask generator is configured to generate said mask by repeating an arbitrary number of times dilation processing or erosion processing for said high frequency signal.

Claim 3 (Previously Presented): The signal processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

a detector configured to detect either or both of an edge component and chroma component from said input video signal, wherein:

said gain factor generator is configured to control an enhanced amount of either or both of said edge component and said chroma component.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): A signal processing method comprising the steps of:

generating a luminance signal of an input video signal;

extracting a high frequency signal from said input video signal, including bandpass filtering and coring the input video signal, and outputting said high frequency signal;

generating a mask by masking image quality degrading components contained in said high frequency signal, including calculating an absolute value of the high frequency signal, bandpass filtering the absolute value, processing a threshold of the bandpass filtered absolute value to generate a processed signal, eliminating a point in the processed signal and outputting said mask;

generating a gain factor based on two separate inputs, said two separate inputs being said mask and said filtered absolute value;

generating a contour correction signal by multiplying said high frequency signal by said gain factor; and

correcting said luminance signal based on said contour correction signal.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): A computer readable storage medium storing a computer readable program configured to cause a processor-based device to execute a method comprising:

generating a luminance signal of an input video signal;

extracting a high frequency signal from said input video signal, including bandpass filtering and coring the input video signal, and outputting said high frequency signal;

generating a mask by masking image quality degrading components contained in said high frequency signal, including calculating an absolute value of the high frequency signal, bandpass filtering the absolute value, processing a threshold of the bandpass filtered absolute value to generate a processed signal, eliminating a point in the processed signal and outputting said mask;

generating a gain factor based on two separate inputs, said two separate inputs being said mask and said filtered absolute value;

generating a contour correction signal by multiplying said high frequency signal by said gain factor; and

correcting said luminance signal based on said contour correction signal.

Claim 6 (Canceled).